



**March 12, 2020**

**In this Issue:**

Week in Review.....P.1

Budget Watch.....P. 1

Legislative Retirements. P. 2

Healthcare @ the Cap...P.2

Bills on the Move.....P. 3

In the News.....P. 3

Forums.....P. 4

Next Week Schedule.....P. 4

Key 2020 Dates.....P. 5

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### Week in Review

This week the House and Senate spent considerable time in both debate and committees. The end of next week marks the second legislative funnel, which requires certain bills to pass one full chamber and the other chamber’s full committee to continue moving through the process. Next week policy committees will hold their final committees as they decide the fate of remaining bills. After the conclusion of next week, only Appropriations, appropriation subcommittees and Ways and Means committees will hold regular committee meetings.

Coronavirus continues to be a topic of conversation at the Capitol, with the Governor releasing statements on the virus, as well as the Department of Public Health holding closed door meetings with legislators to inform them of the precautions the State is taking to deal with the virus. To date, Iowa has confirmed 14 Iowa residents that have tested positive for the disease.

### Budget Watch: REC Meets/Projections

Today the Revenue Estimating Committee (REC) met and released its projections for FY 20 and FY 21. The key takeaways were:

- FY 2020: (the current fiscal year) the revenue projection would be increased by \$76M. These funds will go into the state’s emergency use fund.
- FY 2021: revenue would be reduced by \$12.3M below the December REC estimate. FY 2021 is the fiscal year that legislators will be setting the budget for over the next month. This reduction in revenue essentially means lowering their maximum spending threshold by \$12.3M. Overall, this is a small adjustment. However, legislators will proceed with caution and may set a more conservative budget target in the event that the concerns raised by the REC become a reality and negatively impact revenue due to a potential downturn in the economy. This would be done to avoid a large deficit for the next fiscal year.

The three-member committee discussed the uncertainty in the markets surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, oil crisis and interest rate crisis as factors they looked at when making these final projections. They noted that Iowa’s receipts hadn’t been impacted in a big way but any impact would be expected to be seen in the next couple of months, not now due to sales tax reporting cycles.

With the adoption of this final revenue number, we expect to see targets from the House and the Senate in the next couple weeks. It will likely take several weeks for the House and Senate to agree on global budget numbers; but now more serious consideration will be given to each individual chambers’ budgets.



### Legislative Retirements

Tomorrow is the filing deadline for legislators to file or re-file their intent to run for the House or the Senate. Due to this deadline, we now know which sitting legislators will not seek re-election. Below is a list of those not seeking reelection. With these members retiring, their seats are considered “open seats” and depending on the district’s voter composition, many will become highly contested open seat races.

#### House members not seeking reelection:

1. Gary Carlson (R – Muscatine)
2. Ted Gassman (R – Ottumwa)
3. Chris Hagenow (R – West Des Moines)
4. Mary Ann Hanusa (R – Council Bluffs)
5. Dan Huseman (R – Aurelia)
6. Linda Upmeyer (R – Clear Lake)
7. Louie Zumbach (R – Cedar Rapids)
8. Ashley Hinson (R – Cedar Rapids)
9. Tim Kacena (D – Sioux City)

#### 10. Mark Smith (D – Marshalltown)

#### Senate members not seeking reelection:

1. Jerry Behn (R – Boone)
2. Mike Breitbach (R – Strawberry Point)
3. Randy Feenstra (R – Holt)
4. Tom Greene (R – Burlington)
5. Tim Kapucian (R – Keystone)
6. Mark Segebart (R – Vail)
7. Charles Schneider (R – West Des Moines)

One of the most shocking announcements came from Charles Schneider, Senate President, when he announced on Tuesday morning he would be retiring. He released the following statement:

“I am incredibly proud of the agenda Senate Republicans have implemented since taking control of the Iowa Senate in 2017. We passed the largest income tax cut in state history, brought transparency to property taxes, passed significant tort reforms, and put taxpayers back in control of state and local government. Like many state legislators, I have had to balance serving in the Legislature with my full-time career. I believe the time is right for me to shift my focus to my career and family. I am honored to have served as a legislator and as President of the Senate. I ran for the Legislature to make Iowa the best state in America to live, work and raise a family. As I leave state government, I look back at our progress and I am proud to have helped moved Iowa closer to that goal. I am grateful for the support I have had from volunteers, friends, and family. Most important for me has been having my wife Lisa by my side.”

Additionally, former Speaker Brent Siegrist is expected to file to run for the Republican nomination in the House seat being vacated by current State Rep. Mary Ann Hanusa. Siegrist served nine terms in the House before leaving to run in the 2002 Republican primary for the US House, and lost to former US Congressman Steve King. Siegrist served as the House Majority Leader for seven years and as the Speaker for three years.

### Healthcare @the Statehouse

The House passed **HF 2437**, 96-3, requiring an **orthodontist** to perform an examination within two years before a patient can receive orthodontic treatment.



**HF 2553** focuses on creating requirements for **Pharmacy Benefit Managers** to place drugs on the Maximum Allowable Cost list, which is the maximum amount a plan will pay for certain drugs. According to the bill, the list would be available to all pharmacies and include drugs available to pharmacies statewide. The Pharmacy Benefit Managers would also be required to update the list within seven days of changes. The bill also removes some restrictions that pharmacies had to follow beforehand, including accreditation standards and delivery circumstances. This bill passed the House 100-0 and will now head to the Senate.

**HF 2589**, the **Medical Cannabis** legislation passed the House with a 52-48 vote and is now headed to the Senate. This new version, following last year, includes a 4.5-gram level limit in 90 days, with some exceptions. It also consists of an addition of new practitioners, moves the responsibility to the Department of Public Health, and requires dispensaries to employ pharmacists or pharmacy technicians. An amendment also included that employers have the right to determine if employees using medical marijuana will continue or be qualified for welfare programs.

After passing both the House and Senate unanimously, Governor Reynolds will soon see **SF 2357**. This bill would allow **physician assistants** with appropriate training to prescribe and dispense prescription drugs or perform specific medical duties. It also enables supervising physicians to delegate responsibilities to a physician assistant after determining their competency with the task. The bill adds physician assistants to healthcare providers in regard to medical damages.

**SF 2299** will make its way down to the Governor. This bill allows the use of a third-party vendor for preliminary **background checks**. This also passed the House and Senate unanimously.

Continuing the Legislature's focus on healthcare access this session, the House unanimously passed **HF 2192**, which requires health carriers to reimburse providers for **telehealth** services at the same rate as in-person as of January 2021. The Senate will see now see the legislation.

**HF 2138**, passing the House 98-1, which would require insurance coverage to cap cost-sharing for **insulin** prescriptions at no more than \$100 for a 30-day supply of insulin. The bill now moves to the Senate.

The Ways and Means Committee passed **HF 658** 22-2, which would establish fines for **EMS** speeding offenses. There are specific determinants for the amount paid. The additional fines would be allocated to the Department of Public Health for matching funds for grants for EMS in underserved areas.

### Bills on the Move

With the House and Senate increasing their debate calendars, several bills moved through the full House and Senate this week. The following bills moved that may be of interest.

- *Medical Cannabidiol*. [HF 2589](#) passed the full House on Tuesday evening on mostly party lines. The bill essentially provides for all of the Medical Cannabidiol Board recommendations. The bill differs from a Senate bill moving in the Senate by setting the cap on THC at 4.5grams per 90 days. The Senate bill allows for 25grams per 90 days.



- *Pharmacy Benefit Managers.* [HF 2553](#) passed the House unanimously on Tuesday. The bill places requirements on PBMs operating in Iowa. The bill most notably provides that a PBM cannot reimburse a pharmacy for an amount less than the amount that the PBM reimburse an affiliate for the same drug. PBMs would also be prohibited from disallowing a contracted pharmacy from doing mail order drugs to patients under their network. The bill now goes to the Senate.
- *Angel Investor Tax Credits.* A Senate subcommittee consisting of Smith, Chapman and Dotzler voted out [SSB 3196](#). The bill makes changes to the angel investor tax credit program in Iowa, essentially allowing IEDA to transfer unused funds (up to \$2M) to the angel investor tax credit fund. This years funds are nearly used up already, as the credit is in high demand. Additionally, [HSB 671](#), the companion bill in the House, moved out of full Ways and Means committee unanimously.
- *Background Checks for Health Care Employees.* [SF 2299](#) allows certain health care employers to utilize an independent third party background check to provisionally hire the prospective employee while awaiting the DPS state background check. The bill passed the House and Senate, and now goes to the Governor.

### In the News

Below are articles of interest from the week. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

- [Casinos Make a Billion Dollar Impact on Iowa Economy](#) – *Radio Iowa*
- [Iowa Poll: Republican Party Holds Edge in All Iowa Congressional Regions](#) – *DSM Register*
- [Iowa House Passes Medical Marijuana Bill that Has Governor’s Backing](#) – *Radio Iowa*
- [DHS Accelerates Iowa’s Move From Institutional Care for People with Disabilities](#) – *Iowa Capitol Dispatch*
- [Private Labs Testing for Coronavirus as State Lab Sees Supplies Dwindling](#) – *Des Moines Register*
- [Iowa Felon Voting Rights Move Step Closer to Ballot](#) – *The Gazette*
- [Iowa Senate President Schneider to Retire](#) – *We are Iowa*

### Forums

A comprehensive list of forums can be found [here](#). A list of the forums for this coming weekend is provided below. For more detailed information, click on the link. \*Note: many of these are beginning to be canceled so please check before making the trip.

03/13/2020 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM [Office Hours-Ankeny](#)  
 03/13/2020 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM [Spill the Beans-Anita](#)  
 03/13/2020 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM [Legislative Forum-Hampton](#)  
 03/13/2020 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM [Legislative Forum-Waterloo](#)  
 03/14/2020 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM [Legislative Coffee-Creston](#)  
 03/14/2020 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM [Eggs & Issues-Oskaloosa](#)  
 03/14/2020 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM [Coffee Chat-Bondurant](#)  
 03/14/2020 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM [Town Hall-Maquoketa](#)  
 03/14/2020 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM [Listening Post - Maynard](#)  
 03/14/2020 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM [Jackson County Legislative Forum](#)  
 03/14/2020 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM [Listening Post-Baxter](#)

03/14/2020 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM [Legislative Forum-West Des Moines](#)  
 03/14/2020 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM [Listening Post-Swisher](#)  
 03/14/2020 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM [Legislative Discussion Forum-Corning](#)  
 03/14/2020 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM [Listening Post-Kellogg](#)  
 03/14/2020 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM [Legislative Forum-Des Moines](#)  
 03/14/2020 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM [State & Local Coffee Talk-Waterloo](#)  
 03/14/2020 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM [Listening Post-Lone Tree](#)  
 03/15/2020 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM [Eggs and Issues-Burlington](#)



### Next Week Capitol Schedule

House of Representatives Schedule for Week 10, March 16 - 20, 2020  
Prepared in the Office of House Speaker Pat Grassley

Monday, March 16	Tuesday, March 17	Wednesday, March 18	Thursday, March 19
	<b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>10:00 Local Government</b> RM 19 <b>Agriculture</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Human Resources</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>11:00 Public Safety</b> RM 19 <b>Economic Growth</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>State Government</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>10:00 Ways and Means</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Appropriations</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>11:00 Education</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Commerce</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>8:30 SESSION</b>  <b>10:00 Public Safety</b> RM 19 <b>Economic Growth</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>State Government</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>11:00 Veterans Affairs</b> RM 19 <b>Environmental Protection</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Transportation</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>
<b>1:00 SESSION</b>  <b>2:00 Government Oversight</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>3:00 Natural Resources</b> RM 19 <b>Judiciary</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Labor</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>4:00 Education</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Commerce</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>1:00 Veterans Affairs</b> RM 19 <b>Environmental Protection</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Transportation</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber  <b>2:00 Ways and Means</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Appropriations</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>1:00 Natural Resources</b> RM 19 <b>Judiciary</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Labor</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber	<b>1:00 Local Government</b> RM 19 <b>Agriculture</b> RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult <b>Human Resources</b> RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber

The Legislative Information Office provides a complete list of committee meetings on the web at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov>  
\*\*\*Subject to Change\*\*\*

### IOWA SENATE - Schedule for Week 10, March 16-20, 2020

\*\*\*Subject to Change\*\*\*

Monday, March 16	Tuesday, March 17	Wednesday, March 18	Thursday, March 19
	<b>9:00 SESSION</b>  <b>9:30 Education</b> RM 22 <b>Labor and Business Relations</b> RM 24  <b>10:30 Natural Resources and Environment</b> RM 22 <b>Veterans Affairs</b> RM 24	<b>9:00 SESSION</b>  <b>10:00 Commerce</b> RM 22	<b>9:00 SESSION</b>
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>Noon</b>
<b>1:00 SESSION</b> Subcommittees for House files	<b>1:00 Agriculture</b> RM 22  <b>2:00 State Government</b> RM 22 <b>Local Government</b> RM 24	<b>1:00 Human Resources</b> RM 22 <b>Transportation</b> RM 24  <b>2:30 Judiciary</b> RM 24	

Prepared in the Office of Senate Majority Leader Jack Whitver  
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### Key Dates for 2020 Session

The new Iowa Legislative Session Timetable has been published. Here is the [link](#) and included below is important dates as we approach the 2020 Iowa legislative session.



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## 2020 Legislative Update

<b>January 13</b>	First Day of Legislative Session
<b>January 14</b>	Governor's Budget Released Governor gives her Condition of the State Address to Joint Session
<b>February 21</b>	First Funnel. All Senate and House bills must be out of one full committee
<b>March 20</b>	Second Legislative Funnel. Corresponding chamber must vote bills out of a full committee to remain "alive"
<b>April 6</b>	Amendments need not be filed on the day preceding floor debate
<b>April 21</b>	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of the session. Per diem expenses for legislators end.



Katelyn O'Hare | Frank Chiodo | David Adelman | Matt Paul | Matt Hinch | Jimmy Centers | Sara Allen